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U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURT
CAMDEN. NJ

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JAMES J. WALDRON

BY:
DEPUTY CLEAK

Attorneys for Creditor Twentieth Century Refuse Removal Company

In re:

SHAPES/ARCH HOLDINGS, L.L.C.,

et al,

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY CHAPTER 11

CASE NO. 08-14631 (GMB)

# TWENTIETH CENTURY REFUSE REMOVAL COMPANY, INC.'S OBJECTION TO DEBTORS MOTION TO DISALLOW CLAIMS FOR CONTRIBUTION AND IN THE <u>ALTERNATIVE TO ESTIMATE CLAIMS</u>

Creditor Twentieth Century Refuse Removal Company, Inc. ("Twentieth Century"), by and through its undersigned counsel, hereby objects to Shapes/Arch Holdings L.L.C. and its related debtor entities (collectively, the "Debtors"), the debtors and debtors-in-possession's motion to disallow Twentieth Century 's proof of claim ("the "Motion"). In opposition to the Motion, Twentieth Century represents as follows:

## BACKGROUND

- 1. On March 16, 2008, the Debtors filed their respective petitions for relief under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. These cases are being jointly administered pursuant to this Court's Order of March 18, 2008 under the lead debtor Shapes/Arch Holdings, L.L.C.
- 2. The Debtors continue to operate their businesses and manage their properties as debtors-in-possession. This Court has not appointed a trustee or examiner.

In addition to Shapes/Arch Holdings L.L.C. ("Shapes/Arch"), the following entities, all of which are wholly owned subsidiaries of Shapes/Arch, also filed petitions pursuant to Chapter 11, Title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"): Shapes L.L.C. ("Shapes"), Delair L.L.C. ("Delair"), Accu-Weld L.L.C. ("Accu-Weld") and Ultra L.L.C. ("Ultra").

3. This Court has jurisdiction over Debtors' Motion pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1334. Venue is proper in this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § § 1408 and 1409. This is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2).

## THE PENNSAUKEN LITIGATION

- 4. In 1991, Pennsauken Township, Pennsauken Solid Waste Management Authority and the Pollution Control Financing Authority of Camden County filed an action in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Law Division against various transporters, generators, municipalities and other parties potentially responsible for the contamination of a landfill site located in the Township of Pennsauken (the "Landfill"). The action is captioned at *Pennsauken Solid Waste Mgt. Auth. v. James D. Morrissey, Inc., et al.*, Docket No. L-13395-91 (the "Pennsauken Litigation").
- 5. Plaintiffs assert claims under the New Jersey Spill Act (the "Spill Act"), N.J.S.A. 58:10-23.11 *et seq.* in the Pennsauken Litigation. Specifically, Plaintiffs seek the recovery of costs it has incurred and will incur in the future for the remediation of the Landfill.
- 6. Plaintiffs also have brought several common law causes of action in the Pennsauken Litigation, including negligence, nuisance, misrepresentation, creation of an abnormally dangerous activity and gross negligence. Plaintiffs' alleged damages are approximately \$77,871,002.43.
- 7. The Debtors own and operate a manufacturing facility that is adjacent to the Landfill. The Debtors also disposed of waste containing hazardous substances at the Landfill during the relevant time period in the Pennsauken Litigation. The Debtors are both an on-site and off-site contributor to the hazardous substances at the Landfill and therefore are liable for their allocable share of the costs of the Site's remediation.

- 8. Twentieth Century also is a direct defendant in the Pennsauken Litigation and has cross-claims against the Debtors under the New Jersey Spill Act.
- 9. Pursuant to an Administrative Consent Order entered into with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection ("NJDEP"), the Pennsauken plaintiffs have undertaken remedial investigative studies and efforts at the Landfill. And, pursuant to an agreement with the Pennsauken Litigation plaintiffs, the transporter liaison group (which includes Twentieth Century) has performed NJDEP ordered remedial studies at the site.

  Twentieth Century therefore has expended funds to remediate the Landfill. See attached Exhibit 2 May 15, 2008 correspondence from Sandford Schmidt to Liaison Counsel listing the Transporters' damages.
- 10. Expert discovery is ongoing in the Pennsauken Litigation and trial is scheduled to commence on September 2, 2008.

### TWENTIETH CENTURY 'S PROOF OF CLAIM

- 11. On May 14, 2008, Twentieth Century filed a timely proof of claim against the Debtors. A true and correct copy of the proof of claim is attached as Exhibit 1.
- 12. In its proof of claim, Twentieth Century seeks reimbursement of the funds it has expended as a member of the transporter liaison group to remediate the Landfill.

  Twentieth Century also asserted a claim for at least a portion of the past and future remediation costs, which are currently estimated to be \$77,871,002.43.

#### **LEGAL ARGUMENT**

13. Debtors contend that Twentieth Century 's claim should be disallowed pursuant to Section 502(e)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code because it is a contingent claim for reimbursement or contribution upon which Twentieth Century and the Debtors are jointly liable to a third party. On the contrary, at least a portion of Twentieth Century's claim seeks

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reimbursement of funds it has *actually* expended and will *actually* expend to remediate the Landfill.

has or will personally expend, this Court should not disallow the claim. For example, the court in *Matter of Harvard Indus.*, *Inc.*, 138 B.R. 10 (Bankr. D. Del. 1992), did not disallow a proof of claim under Section 502(e)(1)(B) that was filed by a landfill owner where the owner had remediated the site. The court reasoned that a claim which sought reimbursement of funds it had expended or would expend to remediate the site was not contingent within the meaning of Section 502(e)(1)(B). Similarly, the court in *In re Allegheny Int'l*, *Inc.*, 126 B.R. 919 (W.D. Pa.), *aff'd*, 950 F.2d 721 (3d Cir. 1991), found that a claim seeking reimbursement of funds expended by the claimant and not a governmental agency was not disallowable under Section 502(e)(1)(B).

#### **RESERVATION**

15. Twentieth Century reserves its right to supplement its response on any additional ground.

WHEREFORE, Twentieth Century Refuse Removal Company, Inc. respectfully requests that this Court deny Debtors' Motion to Disallow its Proof of Claim and grant such other and further relief as is just and proper.

Dated: July 1, 2008

KOCH & DeMARCO, LLP

Mary Elizabeth Wolfe

Attorneys for Creditor Twentieth Century

Refuse Removal Company

# EXHIBIT 1

Law Offices of
Schmidt & Fomlinson
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Medford, New Jersey 08055
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Sandf<u>ord F. Schmi</u>dt Ehristopher D. Swirchak

Ephraim Fomlinson, 2nd

(1914-1996)

Judith A. Schneider, Of Counsel\*

May 15, 2008

Louis Giansante, Esquire Carol Rodgers Cobb, Esquire

**VIA EMAIL & REGULAR MAIL** 

Counsel for Ward Sand

Mark A. Stevens, Esquire Counsel for Municipalities

Kevin McKenna, Esquire

Counsel for Generators & Puchak

Pennsauken Landfill Litigation - Liaison File

Defendants

Re:

Kenneth H. Mack, Esquire

Counsel for Third Party (Generator)

\*New Newwood in Ed. 26

Defendants

Michael Bogdonoff, Esquire

Counsel for Swope-Related Third Party

Defendants

Michael D. Lichtenstein, Esquire

Counsel for Palmyra-related 3rd Party Def

Our File No. 11962-1

Dear Counsel:

This law firm represents the Defendant Transporter Group in the above captioned matter.

Pursuant to Judge Lifland's directions at the April 18, 2008 conference, the Transporters provide the following information with respect to damages:

With respect to Groundwater Quality Investigation, our budget is \$113,380; \$98,353.33 has been billed to date. The remaining budget as of 4/25/2008 was \$15,026.67.

With respect to Groundwater Modeling, the total budget is \$110,000. Total billed to date is \$76,028.08. The remaining budget as of 4/25/2008 was \$33,971.92.

Therefore the total Transporter Group damages will be \$223,380, the total billed to date is \$174,381.41, the remaining budget, as of 4/25/2008 was \$48,998.59.

Letter to Liaison Counsel	
May 15, 2008	
Page 2	-

Should you have any questions do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,

Sandford F. Schmidt

cc: Transporter Group
H:\Ann\PENNSAUK\2008\LiaisonCounsel.002.wpd

# EXHIBIT 2

B 10 (Official Form 10) (12/07)

United States Bankruptcy Court Could include States	or "DECA PROOF OF CLAIM	
Name of Debtor. SHAPES/ NICH HELDING LLC, SHAPES ILC, DELIARLIC, ACTIVELS LLC + ULTRALL	Cana Missisham	
NOTE: This form should not be used to make a claim for an administrative expense arising after the commencement of the case. A request for payment of an administrative expense may be filed pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 503.		
Name of Creditor (the person or other entity to whom the debtor owes money or property): Twentieth Century Refuse Removal Company, Inc.	Check this box to indicate that this claim amends a previously filed	
Name and address where notices should be sent:	claim.	
c/o Michael F. DeMarco, Esquire, Koch & DeMarco, LLP, 101 Greenwood Avenue, Jenkintown Plaza, Suite 460, Jenkintown, PA 19046	Court Claim Number:(If known)	
Telephone number: (215) 881-2280	Filed on:	
Name and address where payment should be sent (if different from above):	Check this box if you are aware that anyone else has filed a proof of claim relating to your claim. Attach copy of statement giving particulars.	
Telephone number:	i) Check this box if you are the deblor or trustee in this case.	
1. Amount of Claim as of Date Case Filed: \$ /7,8/1,002.43	5. Amount of Claim Entitled to	
If all or part of your claim is secured, complete item 4 below; however, if all of your claim is unsecured, do not complete item 4.	Priority under 11 U.S.C. §507(a). If any portion of your claim falls in one of the following categories, check the box and state the	
If all or part of your claim is entitled to priority, complete item 5.	amount.	
Check this box if claim includes interest or other charges in addition to the principal amount of claim. Attach itemized statement of interest or charges.	Specify the priority of the claim.	
2. Basis for Claim: See Attached Exhibit A (See instruction #2 on reverse side.)	11 U.S.C. §507(a)(1)(A) or (a)(1)(B).	
3. Last four digits of any number by which creditor identifies debtor:	<ul> <li>Wages, salaries, or commissions (up to \$10,950*) earned within 180 days</li> </ul>	
3a. Debtor may have scheduled account as: (See instruction #3a on reverse side.)	before filing of the bankruptcy petition or cessation of the debtor's business, whichever is earlier 11	
4. Secured Claim (See instruction #4 on reverse side.) Check the appropriate box if your claim is secured by a lien on property or a right of setoff and provide the requested information.	U.S.C. §507 (a)(4).	
Nature of property or right of setoff: 11 Real Estate 11 Motor Vehicle 11 Other Describe:	Contributions to an employee benefit plan - 11 U.S.C. §507 (a)(5).	
Value of Property:\$ Annual Interest Rate%	Up to \$2,425* of deposits toward purchase, lease, or rental of property or services for personal, family, or	
Amount of arrearage and other charges as of time case filed included in secured claim,	household use - 11 U.S.C. §507 (a)(7).	
if any: \$Basis for perfection:	Taxes or penalties owed to	
Amount of Secured Claim: \$ Amount Unsecured: \$	governmental units - 11 U.S.C. §507 (a)(8).	
6. Credits: The amount of all payments on this claim has been credited for the purpose of making this proof of claim.	Other - Specify applicable paragraph	
7. Documents: Attach reducted copies of any documents that support the claim, such as promissory notes, purchase orders, invoices, itemized statements of running accounts, contracts, judgments, mortgages, and security agreements. You may also attach a summary. Attach reducted copies of documents providing evidence of perfection of	of 11 U.S.C. §507 (a)().  Amount entitled to priority:	
a security interest. You may also attach a summary. (See definition of "reducted" on reverse side.)	\$	
DO NOT SEND ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS. ATTACHED DOCUMENTS MAY BE DESTROYED AFTER SCANNING.	*Amounts are subject to adjustment on 4/1/10 and every 3 years thereafter with	
If the documents are not available, please explain:	respect to cases commenced on or after the date of adjustment.	
Date: 05/14/2008  Signature: The person filing this claim must sign it. Sign and print name and title, if any, of the cruother person authorized to file this claim and state address and telephone number if different from the address above. Attach copy of power of attorney, if any.	FOR COURT USE ONLY editor or ie notice	
Michael F. DeMarco, Esquire Attorney for Twentieth Century Refuse Removal Company, Inc.		

#### Exhibit A

Pennsauken Township, Pennsauken Solid Waste Management Authority, and the Pollution Control Financing Authority of Camden County filed an action in 1991 titled *Pennsauken Solid Waste Mgt. Auth. v. Ward Sand Material Co.*, *Inc., et al.*, New Jersey Superior Court, Camden County, Law Division, Docket L:13345-91, ("Pennsauken Landfill Litigation,") against various transporters and other parties potentially responsible for the contamination of a landfill site located in the Township of Pennsauken ("Landfill"). The Pennsauken Plaintiffs allege that their damages are \$77,871,002.43.

Quick-way, Inc. ("QWI") is a direct defendant in this Spill Act contribution action, as is Aluminum Shapes, Inc. Pursuant to an agreement with the Pennsauken Plaintiffs, QWI, as part of the Transporter Liaison Group, has funded integral parts of the remediation process required by the NJDEP. Consequently, QWI has expended money to remediate the Landfill.

The Debtor, Shapes/Arch Holdings, L.L.C., also known as Aluminum Shapes Inc. ("Aluminum Shapes"), upon information and belief, is a company located adjacent to the Landfill. Aluminum Shapes disposed of waste at the Landfill. Aluminum Shapes caused effluent from its facility to be disposed of into the Landfill. Aluminum Shapes also disposed of waste at the Landfill. Therefore, Aluminum Shapes is both an on-site and off-site contributor to the contamination of the Landfill site that is the subject of the Pennsauken Landfill Litigation during the relevant time frame of the action from 1970 through June of 1982, and thereby constitutes a significant contributor to the site. As a significant contributor to the contamination of the Landfill site and an indispensable co-defendant, Aluminum Shapes is liable for the cost of the remediation. QWI, as Aluminum Shapes' co-defendant in the Pennsauken Landfill Litigation, therefore, has an unsecured claim against Aluminum Shapes for the full amount of the remediation costs, which are estimated at \$77,871,002.43.